

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Custodero et al.  
Serial No. : 09/583,655 Examiner: Boss, W. #8/A  
Filed : May 30, 2000 Group Art: 1775 12-8-00  
For : CARBON BLACK COATED WITH AN ALUMINOUS LAYER  
AND PROCESS FOR OBTAINING SAME

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111****EXPRESS MAIL NO: ET 346771091 US**Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated May 30, 2002, please consider the following amendments and remarks. Applicants submit herewith: (i) a marked-up version of the amended claims, attached hereto as Exhibit A; (ii) a clean copy of the pending claims as amended, attached hereto as Exhibit B; and (iii) a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132.

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 05 2002  
**TC 1700**

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01 FC:1253  
02 FC:1202920.00 OP  
36.00 OP